



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: William Cohn and Thomas P. Mathers  
Application No.: 10/647,657 Filed Date: August 25, 2003  
Confirmation No.: 2131 Group Art: 3731 Examiner: Not Assigned  
For: Suture System

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I Hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
on <u>January 20, 2004</u> Date	<u>Mary P. McDermott</u> Signature
_____ Mary P. McDermott Typed or printed name of person signing certificate	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.129(a), or  
(First/Second submission after Final Rejection)
- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within any one of the following time periods: three months of filing national application (other than a CPA) or date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits in a non-provisional application, including a CPA, or a Request for Continued Examination).
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either:  
☐ a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), as checked below, or  
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(More than 3 months after receipt of the International Search Report, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with:  
☐ a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), as checked below, and  
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(i):  
Applicant requests that the IDS and cited reference(s) be placed in the application filewrapper.  
(Filed after payment of issue fee)



Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d) (Patent Term Adjustment)

Applies to original applications (other than design) filed on or after May 29, 2000

- ☐ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Enclosed herewith is form PTO-1449:

- ☐ Copies of the cited references are enclosed.
- ☒ In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (d), copies of cited references (AA-AK, AA2-AK2, AA3-AK3, AL-AQ and AL2-AM2) are not enclosed as these references were entered in earlier application, U.S. Application No. 09/360,709, now Patent No. 6,610,071, to which the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 120. The earlier application contains copies of the cited references.
- ☒ If copies of references (AA-AK, AA2-AK2, AA3-AK3, AA4, AL-AQ and AL2-AM2) would benefit the Examiner of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney and copies will be forwarded immediately.
- ☒ Listed references AA, AH-AJ, AL, AM, AP and AD3 were cited in the enclosed International Search Report in a counterpart foreign application.

Concise Explanation Requirement (non-English references):

- ☐ The "concise explanation" requirement (non-English references) for reference(s) [ ] under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) is satisfied by:
  - ☐ the explanation provided on the attached sheet.
  - ☐ the explanation provided in the Specification.
  - ☐ submission of the enclosed International Search Report.
  - ☐ the enclosed English language abstract.

☐ Applicant requests that the following pending applications be considered:

Examiner's  
Initials

\_\_\_\_ U.S. Patent Application No. [ ], Publication No. [ ], Publication Date [ ],  
by [inventor(s)], filed [ ], Docket No.: [ ]

\_\_\_\_ U.S. Patent Application No. [ ], Publication No. [ ], Publication Date [ ],  
by [inventor(s)], filed [ ], Docket No.: [ ]

\_\_\_\_ U.S. Patent Application No. [ ], Publication No. [ ], Publication Date [ ],  
by [inventor(s)], filed [ ], Docket No.: [ ]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

☐ A copy of each above-cited application, including the current claims, is enclosed.

☐ A copy of each above-cited application, including the current claims, is enclosed, except those entered in prior application, U.S. Application No. [ ], to which priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 is claimed.

The Examiner is requested to return a copy of the above list of pending applications indicating which references were considered with the next office communication.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Method of payment:

☐ A check for the fee noted above is enclosed, or the fee has been included in the check with the accompanying Reply. A copy of this Statement is enclosed.

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1935 in the amount of \$[ ]. A copy of this Statement is enclosed.

☒ Please charge any deficiency in fees and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1935.

Respectfully submitted,

BOWDITCH & DEWEY, LLP

By Thomas O. Hoover  
Thomas O. Hoover

Date: January 20, 2004

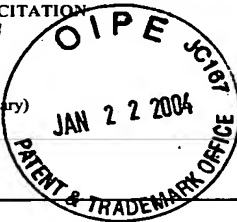
Registration No. 22,470

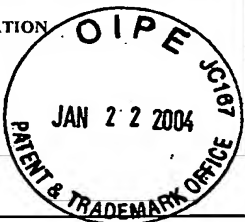
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PTO-1449 REPRODUCED  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION  1/16/2004 (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 301492.1047-119		APPLICATION NO. 10/647,657	
				APPLICANT William Cohn and Thomas P. Mathers			
				FILING DATE August 25, 2003		GROUP ART UNIT 3731	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAM- -NER INI- TIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2,591,063	04/01/52	Goldberg	128	334	
	AB	3,762,418	10/73	Wasson	606	223	
	AC	4,164,046	08/14/79	Cooley	623	2.36	
	AD	4,185,636	01/29/80	Gabbay et al.	606	148	
	AF	4,405,044	09/20/83	Flower <i>et al.</i>	206	44.12	
	AF	4,549,545	10/29/85	Levy	128	335	
	AG	4,566,607	01/28/86	Smith	221	155	
	AH	4,632,113	12/30/86	Ablaza	128	335	
	AI	4,702,250	10/27/87	Ovil <i>et al.</i>	606	148	
	AJ	4,932,965	06/12/90	Phillips	623	2	
	AK	5,123,528	06/23/92	Brown <i>et al.</i>	206	63.3	
	AA2	5,207,703	05/04/93	Jain	606	232	
	AB2	5,284,293	02/08/94	Alpern <i>et al.</i>	229	122.1	
	AC2	5,304,184	04/19/94	Hathaway <i>et al.</i>	606	148	
	AD2	5,383,904	01/24/95	Totakura <i>et al.</i>	606	228	
	AE2	5,450,860	09/19/95	O'Connor	128	898	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES      NO
	AF	EP 0 494 636	15 Jul. 92	Europe			
	AM	EP 0 554 653	11 Aug. 93	Europe			
	AN	513696	15 May 76	Soviet Union (English Abstract)			
	AO	827047	09 Jan 79	Soviet Union (English Abstract)			
	AP	WO 96/04852	22 Feb. 96	PCT			
	AQ	WO 98/29039	09 Jul 98	PCT			
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAM- INER INI- TIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AF2	5,690,230	11/25/97	Griffith	206	555	
	AG2	5,709,695	01/20/98	Northrup, III	606	148	
	AH2	5,762,458	06/09/98	Wang <i>et al.</i>	414	1	
	AI2	5,792,135	08/11/98	Madhani <i>et al.</i>	606	1	
	AJ2	5,797,900	08/25/98	Madhani <i>et al.</i>	606	1	
	AK2	5,807,377	09/15/98	Madhani <i>et al.</i>	606	1	
	AA3	5,813,597	09/29/98	Wakevainen	229	122.1	
	AB3	5,814,096	09/29/98	Lam <i>et al.</i>	623	2	
	AC3	5,824,064	10/20/98	Taheri	623	2	
	AD3	5,843,126	12/01/98	Jameel	606	220	
	AE3	5,855,583	01/05/99	Wang <i>et al.</i>	606	139	
	AF3	5,860,517	01/19/99	Gemma, Jr. <i>et al.</i>	206	63.3	
	AG3	5,871,489	02/16/99	Ovil	606	148	
	AH3	5,891,160	04/06/99	Williamson, IV <i>et al.</i>	606	144	
	AI3	5,891,195	04/06/99	Klostermeyer <i>et al.</i>	623	2	
	AJ3	5,908,452	06/01/99	Bokros <i>et al.</i>	623	2	
	AK3	5,911,036	06/08/99	Wright <i>et al.</i>	395	94	
	AA4	6,610,071	08/26/03	Cohn <i>et al.</i>	606	148	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES      NO
	AL2	WO 98/53745	03 Dec. 98	PCT			
	AM2	WO 99/60929	02 Dec. 99	PCT			
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			